



## Police Aim to Save Lives With 'Booze It & Lose It'



Due to the increase in drunken-driving related fatalities around the holidays each year, state and local law enforcement agencies across North Carolina were out in full force for the holiday Booze It & Lose It campaign. The statewide campaign lasted from Dec. 11, 2015, through Jan. 3.

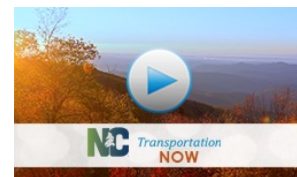
Their efforts resulted in 3,074 DWI charges in which 252 were drug-related charges and 2,822 were alcohol related.

Nearly 350 law enforcement agencies participated in the campaign, issuing 105,020 traffic and criminal citations in addition to the 2,822 DWI charges at 10,914 checking stations and saturation patrols across the state.

The top five counties for DWI arrests during the campaign were as follows:

- Wake County - 260;

## NC Transportation Now



On the latest N.C. Transportation Now: Looking back at the highlights of 2015 at NCDOT.

For more information on these story, visit NCDOT's [YouTube Channel](#).



## NCDMV Encourages Customers to Plan Ahead as Fee Increases Become Effective with New Year

- Guilford County - 208;
- Mecklenburg County - 168;
- Cumberland County - 136; and
- Forsyth County - 125.

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## Construction Underway on Division 12 Bridge Replacement Projects

On Monday, Jan. 11, Davis Park Road closed to through traffic between Hudson Boulevard and Stagecoach Road to replace the bridge over Blackwood Creek. This is one of several ongoing bridge replacement projects in Division 12.

The bridge on Davis Park Road, which was built in 1957, is considered functionally obsolete and structurally deficient. That means that, although the bridge is safe, it needs to be replaced. Structurally deficient bridges have load carrying components in poor condition due to deterioration. These bridges are safe; however, they require significant maintenance to remain in service, and limits on vehicle weights may be required. To fully address the issues on a structurally deficient bridge, extensive rehabilitation or replacement is usually required.

Functionally obsolete bridges no longer meet the demands of the traffic using them and need to be improved or replaced due to narrow lanes, low height clearances, or low weight-carrying capacity.

A signed detour is directing motorists to use Davis Park Road, U.S. 321/South York Road and Hudson Boulevard.

This bridge replacement project is part a contract that includes three other bridge replacement projects, including one in Alexander County and two in Iredell County.

Crews will work to replace the existing bridge with a culvert. The road is scheduled to reopen to traffic in May 2016.

Crews are also working to replace a bridge over Mill Creek on Johnstown Road in Lincoln County.

The bridge was built in 1970 and is considered functionally

The North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles is encouraging customers to plan ahead for increased fees for many driver and vehicle services that will become effective with the new year.

The new fees were drafted and passed by the N. C. General Assembly in budget appropriations legislation, House Bill 97. They reflect the first DMV fee increases in 11 years. The legislation applies to vehicle titles and registrations as well as driver license issuances and renewals on or after Jan. 1, 2016.

After that date, interest charged on late registration fees will also be calculated on the new fee amount.

For example, standard Class C driver licenses will increase by \$1 for each year issued, making an 8-year license \$40 and a five-year license card \$25; standard ID cards will be \$13. Vehicle registration will increase by \$8, making the annual registration fee for a standard private passenger vehicle \$36.

Other changes include the elimination of the 10-Day Trip Permit. Instead, vehicles that require temporary registration for transfers, sales, travel or

obsolete. Johnstown Road will be closed to through traffic between Ishmael Beam Road and Leonhardt Road while the bridge is replaced. A detour will direct motorists to use Ishmael Bean Road to N.C. 182 and then back to Johnstown Road.

The road is expected to reopen to traffic in early June 2016.

For information about other ongoing bridge projects in Division 12, click [here](#).

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## Local Projects Added, Accelerated Through State Budget

At its January in Raleigh, the N.C. Board of Transportation approved new transportation projects, as well as accelerated schedules for already-planned projects, as part of the [2016-2025 State Transportation Improvement Program \(STIP\)](#), which is the N.C. Department of Transportation's 10-year construction plan. These changes, called amendments, were made possible thanks to Governor Pat McCrory's 2015 budget.

"The reforms I signed into law will get these roads built sooner," Governor McCrory said. "The primary purpose of the reforms was to ensure transportation funds were being spent on transportation projects and not diverted to other state programs."

For NCDOT's Division 12, which includes Alexander, Catawba, Cleveland, Gaston, Iredell and Lincoln counties, [nine highway projects](#) and [six non-highway projects](#) were either expedited or added to the 10-year transportation plan. These projects include:

- Widening I-85 in Gaston County from Exit 17 (U.S. 321) to Exit 10 (U.S. 74). Right-of-way acquisition for the widening project is scheduled to begin in fiscal year 2022, and construction is scheduled to begin in fiscal year 2024;
- Completing the improvements to the I-40/I-77 interchange in



Division 12 Board of

inspections will be issued a 10-Day Temporary Registration Permit. Beginning Jan. 1, the temporary permit will cost \$10 and must be notarized.

For more information, including a fee schedule detailing the new fees, click [here](#).

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### NCDOT News



For the latest news from the N.C. Department of Transportation, visit the Department's [Newsroom](#).

construction scheduled for  
fiscal year 2018;

- Widening N.C. 150 from the relocated N.C. 16 to I-77: Right-of-way acquisition for Segment A accelerated from fiscal year 2025 to fiscal year 2022 and construction scheduled for fiscal year 2025;
- Upgrading N.C. 16 in Alexander County from the Catawba River to the Wilkes County line: Right-of-way acquisition scheduled for fiscal year 2022 and construction scheduled for fiscal year 2024;
- Widening N.C. 73 from N.C. 16 Business in Lincoln County to West Catawba Avenue in Mecklenburg County: Construction of Segment A accelerated from fiscal year 2024 to fiscal year 2023;
- Improving the intersection of N.C. 16 and County Home Road in Alexander County: Right-of-way acquisition scheduled for fiscal year 2020 and construction scheduled for fiscal year 2020;
- Constructing the Eastside Thoroughfare/McDonald Parkway in Catawba County from U.S. 321/70 to N.C. 127: Right-of-way for Segment B scheduled for fiscal year 2023 and construction scheduled for fiscal year 2025;
- Widening N.C. 180 in Cleveland County from N.C. 226 to N.C. 150: Right-of-way acquisition scheduled for fiscal year 2023 and construction scheduled for fiscal year 2025; and
- Improving the intersection of N.C. 3 and Kistler Farm Road in Iredell County: Right-of-way acquisition scheduled for fiscal year 2020 and construction scheduled for fiscal year 2022.

The complete expanded and accelerated list of highway and non-highway projects can be found on NCDOT's website.

The state budget included additional funding for transportation through the elimination of the transfer from the Highway Fund to the General Fund and through other fee and rate changes resulting in an additional \$1.6 billion over the next 10 years for transportation construction.

The department followed the Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) law to identify new projects (either segments or entire projects) at the statewide, regional and division levels. The projects were identified from those previously scored based on the same weights and criteria (data) used to develop the 2016-2025 STIP.

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